



# **PRESS RELEASE**

## **House Armed Services Committee**

### **Floyd D. Spence, Chairman**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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#### **PRESS ADVISORY**

### **HOUSE ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE TO CONDUCT FIELD HEARING AT NELLIS, AIR FORCE BASE**

The Subcommittee on Military Readiness of the Committee on Armed Services of the U.S. House of Representatives will conduct a field hearing on Friday, February 26 at 10 a.m. at the Nellis Air Force Base Officer's Club. The hearing is open to the public.

The subcommittee is in the process of considering readiness related aspects of President Clinton's fiscal year 2000 defense budget request. The purpose of the hearing for the members of the subcommittee to better understand the problems, challenges, and budgetary shortfalls at the U.S. military's major combat training centers. The subcommittee will hear from the General Accounting Office (GAO), the commanders of each of the services major training centers, and junior officers and enlisted members who have recently participated in training center exercises.

#### **Media Information:**

- All members of the press interested in covering the hearing should contact Air Warfare Center Public Affairs at (702) 652-2750.
- On the day of the hearing, press should arrive at Nellis AFB Main Gate Visitors' Center (Craig and Las Vegas Blvd) no later than 9:15 a.m. for check-in.
- Directions: From Las Vegas, take Interstate 15 north to the Craig Road exit. Right onto Craig and go east about four miles. Craig dead-ends at the Nellis AFB Main Gate. Visitors' Center entrance is on the right before reaching the gate guard.

#### **Witnesses:**

##### **Panel One:**

- William Solis, Assistant Director, Military Operations and Capabilities Issues, General Accounting Office

##### **Panel Two:**

- Brig.Gen. William G. Webster, Jr., USA, Commanding General, National Training Center and Ft. Irwin, California

- Brig.Gen. Samuel S. Thompson III, USA, Commanding General, Joint Readiness Training Center and Ft. Polk, Louisiana
- Colonel John D. Rosenberger, USA, Commander, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment National Training Center, Ft. Irwin, California
- RADM. Timothy R. Beard, USN, Commander, Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center, Naval Air Station, Fallon, Nevada
- Brig.Gen. Clifford L. Stanley, USMC, Commanding General, Marine Corps Air/Ground Combat Center, Twenty-Nine Palms, California
- Maj.Gen. Glen W. Moorhead, III, USAF, Commander, Air Warfare Center, Nellis AFB, Nevada

**Panel Three:**

- Lt.Col. George T. Lockwood, USA, Commander, 3rd Squadron, 7th U.S. Cavalry, 3rd Infantry Division, Ft. Stewart, Georgia
- Command Sergeant Major Robert M. Hadden, USA, 3rd Squadron, 7th U.S. Cavalry, 3rd Infantry Division, Ft. Stewart, Georgia
- Staff Sergeant Christopher L. Rhoden, USA, Mechanized Infantry Squad Leader, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, National Training Center, Ft. Irwin, California
- Maj. Steven D., Imonti, USAF, F-16 Aggressor Pilot, 414th Combat Training Squadron, Nellis AFB, Nevada
- SMSgt. Darren C. Boiles, USAF, Sortie Generation Flight Chief, 354th Fighter Squadron, Davis Monthan AFB, Arizona

**Background Information:**

In previous years, the subcommittees of the House Armed Services Committee have conducted similar hearings throughout the U.S., and the information learned from the witnesses directly influenced many of the provisions contained in the annual defense authorization act.

The jurisdiction of the House Armed Services Committee covers the breadth of the operations of the Department of Defense (DOD) as well as the significant national security portions of the annual operating budget of the Department of Energy. DOD's annual budget in excess of \$260 billion involves millions of military and civilian personnel, thousands of facilities, and hundreds of agencies, departments, and commands located throughout the world. The oversight responsibilities of the Committee on Armed Services are conducted primarily within the context of the committee's consideration of the annual defense authorization bill.

The committee divides its responsibilities between five standing subcommittees (Military Procurement, Military Research and Development, Military Readiness, Military Installations and Facilities, and Military Personnel) and two special oversight panels (Moral, Welfare, and Recreation and Merchant Marine).

The Military Readiness Subcommittee is chaired by U.S. Representative Herbert H. Bateman of Virginia and is comprised of 22 members of Congress. The subcommittee is responsible for the annual authorization of funding for operation and maintenance, the readiness and preparedness requirements of the defense establishment, and related legislative oversight.